CHAPTER XLIV: NONCONFORMIST

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THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR PHYSIQUES ISN'T ABSOLUTE.

IF I TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE GAP IN OUR TIMINGS, I CAN TURN THE TABLES AND GET AN OPENING!

BY STICKING TO HIS FLANK, I'LL BE ABLE TO HIT WITH MY ATTACKS!

AND IS NOW CLINGING TO HIS LEFT SIDE.

HE SLIPPED THROUGH THE OUTER ANGLE BY HIS OPPONENT'S LEFT FIST.

HIS OPPONENT IS A COMMANDING VETERAN WHO DOMINATES WITH HIS FRONTAL BLOWS.

YES, THAT'S IT, THAT'S GREAT!

IT'S FAR TOO DANGEROUS TO TRY EXPOSING YOURSELF TO THE STOUT, LONG RANGE OF HIS FISTS.

WITH SUCH A POSITION HE'LL BE ABLE TO BREAK THROUGH TO VICTORY!

HIS EARLIER ATTACKS SHOWED THAT HIS RIGHT ARM IS, BEYOND A DOUBT, HIS MAIN WEAPON.

HE'S ALWAYS TRYING TO CLENCH AND STRIKE DOWN WITH IT.

THAT MAN'S DOMINANT ARM IS HIS RIGHT.

WHY'S THAT MASTER?

FIRST I WANT YOU TO THINK AS TO WHERE HIS RIGHT FIST'S BLIND SPOT WOULD BE.

THAT'S SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO RUSH IN.

IT'S A PLACE WHERE SOMEONE WITH A PETITE FORM LIKE CESTVS CAN STRIKE, YET IT'S ALSO SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY FROM HIS OPPONENT'S RIGHT FIST.

ONLY USE THEIR LEFT FIST.

AS LONG AS HE STAYS WITH THAT POSITION, THE ENEMY CAN IN EFFECT...

JUST WHERE WOULD ONE BE NATURALLY BE SO RESTRICTED?

THE LEFT ARM'S OUTER ANGLE!

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THUS THERE'S NO WAY FOR THE ENEMY TO HIT HIM!

FOR HIM TO PUNCH WITH HIS RIGHT FIST, THE STRUCTURE OF THE HUMAN BODY NECESSITATES THAT HE HALF TURN HIS UPPER BODY.

YET SUCH AN ACT TAKES SO LONG THAT CESTVS CAN MOVE FURTHER ROUND TO HIS LEFT AT THE SAME TIME...

WHAT'S GOING ON ORLENTES?!

HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA PLAY AROUND WITH THIS KID FOR?!

HURRY UP AND FINISH HIM OFF!

GYAA!

THIS BLOODY KID!

THERE ARE LIMITS TO THE EXTENT WHICH ONE CAN MOVE THEIR ARMS.

WHAT'S MORE, FOR ANY KIND OF BLOW, THE RADIUS IN WHICH ONE IS ABLE TO EFFECTIVELY DISPLAY ITS POWER IS SURPRISINGLY NARROW.

THOSE WHO CAN OBTAIN THIS, STAND AS SUPERIOR.

THAT'S WHAT I MEANT WHEN I TALKED OF THERE BEING A "STRUGGLE FOR SPACE".

THAT IS WHY FULL BODY MOVEMENT IS A NECESSITY.

BY CONTINOUSLY ROTATING YOUR LEGS AND TWISTING YOUR UPPER BODY...

YOU FIND YOURSELF IN AN ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION WHEREIN YOU'RE ABLE TO STRIKE WITH BOTH FISTS AT RANGE.

THE RESULT IS THAT, NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE SWINGS WITH HIS RIGHT HAND...

HE'LL NEVER REACH CESTVS, WHO'S FOREVER STAYING IN HIS BLIND SPOT.

HIS OPPONENT ONLY KNOWS HOW TO CHARGE ON AHEAD.

HIS BODY IS STIFF, AND HIS PUNCHING RANGE IS LIMITED.

HE'S UNABLE TO MAKE USE OF HIS LOWER BODY, AND SO CAN ONLY ALLOW CESTVS INTO HIS BLIND SPOT.

THIS IS ALL BECAUSE HIS LEG WORK IS POOR.

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IT REQUIRES BRAVERY AND SPEED TO BE ABLE TO SLIP BY HIS OPPONENT'S FLYING LEFT FIST.

WITH IT THOUGH HE'S ABLE TO COMPLETELY LOCK OUT THE STRONGER RIGHT FIST.

IT'S A SIMPLE TACTIC.

YET IT'S NOT EASY TO PULL OFF.

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HE'S BEEN PUNCHING HIM SO ONE SIDEDLY...

YET HE DON'T SEEM TO HAVE DONE MUCH DAMAGE.

BUT MASTER...

CESTVS' GREATEST WEAPON WILL BE STRIKING AT ONE KEY PART OF HIS OPPONENT'S MOVING BODY.

HE'LL REVEAL HIS ACE BEFORE HE LOSES MOMENTUM.

OOH... YOU'VE A SURPRISINGLY KEEN EYE THERE PEDRO.

AIN'T ALL THIS JUST WEARING CESTVS DOWN?

HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE METHOD WHICH ALLOWS EVEN ONE WITH A SMALL BUILD TO TAKE DOWN A GIANT.

REGRETFULLY, THE THICK MEAT SHIELD THAT IS HIS OPPONENT'S FLESH IS ABSORBING MUCH OF CESTVS' BLOWS.

STRIKE DOWN HIS UNTRAINED SENSES!

TEAR HIM APART CESTVS!

YOU'VE ONE SHOT AT VICTORY!

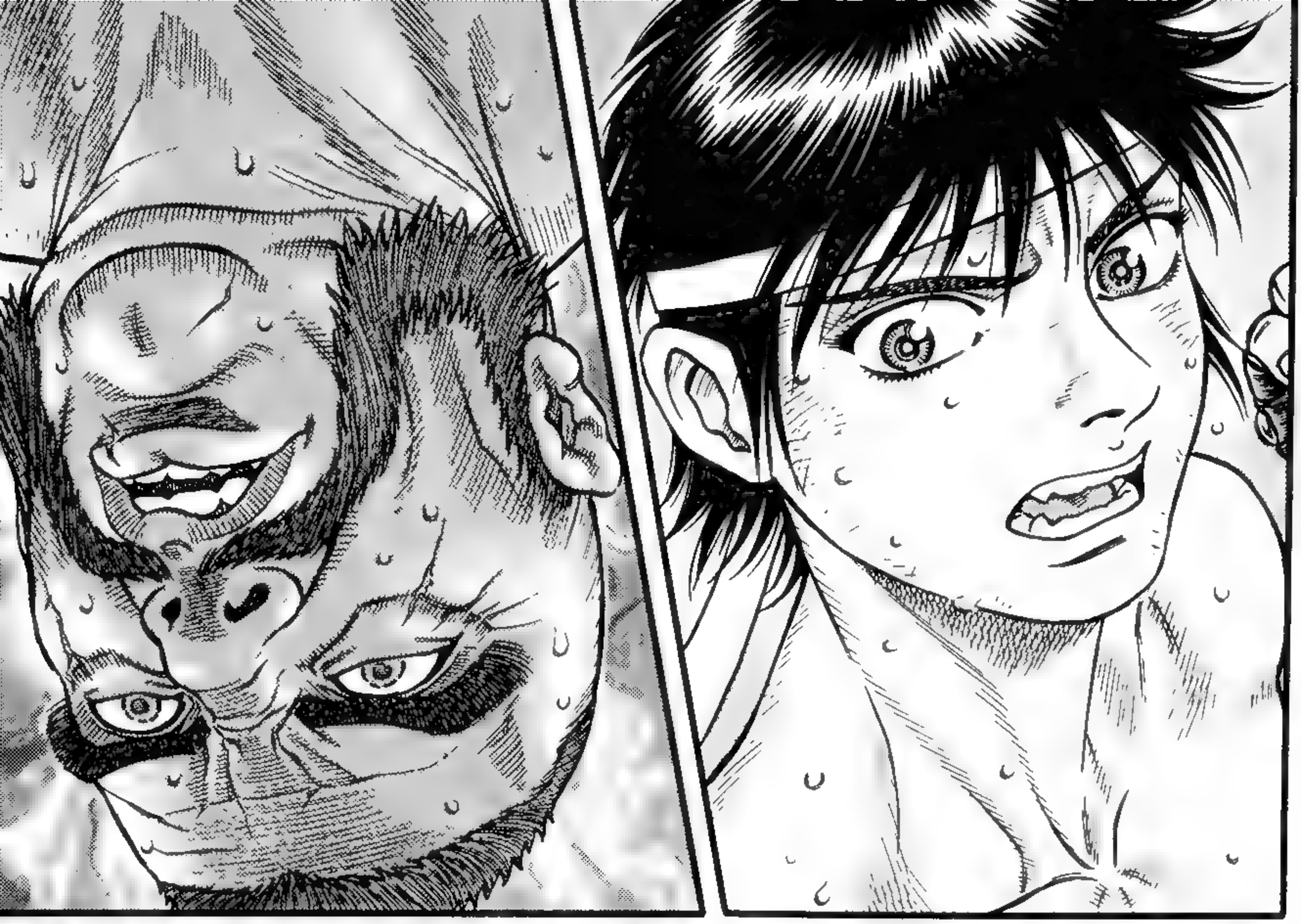
ONE TARGET TO AIM AT!

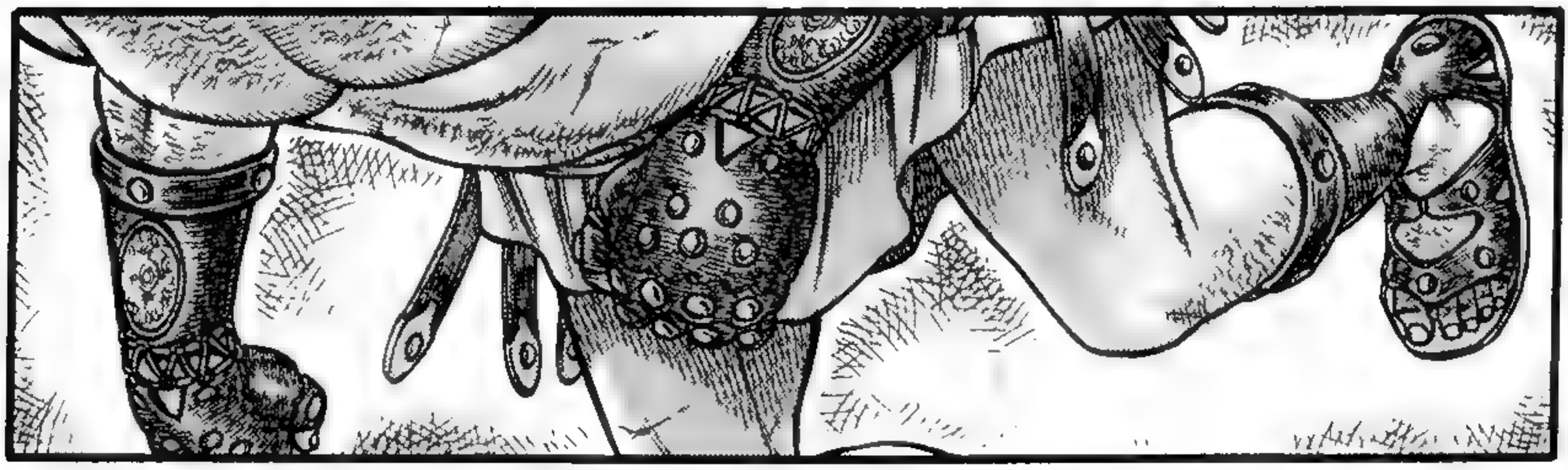
ALRIGHT!

BUT ONE HOOK WON'T BE ENOUGH!

ONCE MORE!

WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT, CHARGE IN AND DO A STRAIGHT PUNCH!





HE... HE FELL DOWN?!

THIS IS INCRED-IBLE!

OF ALL THE PEOPLE, THAT CHILD...

HAS SENT THE UNFALLING ORLENTES SPRAWLING ON THE GROUND?!

JUST WHO IS THIS KID...?!

MY FEET ARE TANGLED.

HUH?!

?!

WHAT HAS THIS DAMN BRAT DONE TO ME?!

WHAT HAS HE...

WHAT'S WITH THIS BIZARRE FEELING?!

WHAT IS THIS?!

EVEN IN MODERN BOXING IT CAN BE EFFECTIVE STRIKING UNDERNEATH THE EAR.

UNDER THE EAR.

THE THREE SEMICIRCULAR CANALS.

WITHIN THE INNERMOST PART OF THE EAR LIE THE THREE SEMICIRCULAR CANALS, WHICH GOVERN THE BODY'S SENSE OF EQUILIBRIUM.

COCHLEA.

EARDRUM

ANTERIOR SEMICIRCULAR CANAL

LATERAL SEMICIRCULAR CANAL

THESE THREE SEMICIRCULAR CANALS ARE CONNECTED AT DIFFERENT ANGLES. EACH CONTAINS ENDOLYMPH FLUID, WHICH FLOWS ACCORDING TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE HEAD. THIS INFORMATION IS THEN TRANSMITTED TO THE BRAIN.

CROSS SECTION VIEW

THESE SENSORY ORGANS...

SIDEWAYS ROTATION.

IT IS THIS THEN WHICH ALLOWS A PERSON TO STAND UPRIGHT, OR CARRY OUT VIOLENT ACTIONS.

FRONT AND BACK ROTATION.

ARE WELL TUNED AND, MUCH LIKE SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT, ARE QUITE SUSCEPTIBLE TO SUDDEN SHOCKS.

AXIS ROTATION.

THE BODY LOSES SIGHT OF ITS COORDINATES...

AND EASILY BOWS TO GRAVITY.

WHEN THE SEMICUCULAR CANALS SUFFER A TEMPORARY SHOCK...

OF COURSE!

THEN STAND UP!

GUH...

CAN YOU CONTINUE ORLENTES?

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EVEN THOUGH YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS IS FINE, THE SIGNALS REACHING YOUR BRAIN ARE WRONG.

WHEN YOUR SENSES ARE DISTURBED...

IT IS NOT LIKE PHYSICAL FATIGUE OR TIREDNESS.

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NO MATTER HOW MUCH STRENGTH YOU HAVE LEFT...

NO MATTER HOW MUCH FIGHTING SPIRIT YOU MAY TRY AND SHOW...

YOU CANNOT LIFT YOUR FEET OFF THE GROUND.

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IN A BOXING MATCH THIS MEANS DEFEAT.

IF YOU'VE WISDOM, TECHNIQUE AND UNFLINCHING BRAVENESS, YOU CAN SURPASS THOSE WHO ONLY RELY UPON THEIR BODIES.

IT'S FAR TOO SIMPLE TO BELIEVE THAT MATCHES INVOLVE MAGIC...

...!

THAT'S BOXING TECHNIQUE.

WOAH, THAT WAS ALMOST LIKE MAGIC!

IT'S THE NONCONFORMIST'S WIN!

PR... EY...

PR... EY...